

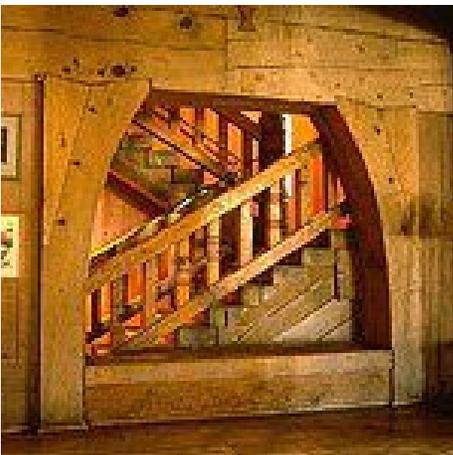
September 7 Forest Service fiddles at timberline

September 7, 2005 - Mount Hood, Oregon – The great Timberline Lodge perched at timberline on Mount Hood was the site of a wonderful Forest Service Centennial Celebration on Wednesday, September 7. The Fiddlin’ Foresters performed a Centennial program for about 150 Mount Hood National Forest employees, retirees and lodge guests.



Timberline lodge lies at timberline on beautiful Mount Hood, which has less snow on it in 2005 than in any year in recent memory.

The Work Progress Authority (WPA) built Timberline Lodge, and **President Franklin D. Roosevelt** dedicated it on September 28, 1937. He said, “This serves as a monument to the skill and faithful performance of workers on the rolls of the Work Progress Administration.” It is a beautiful massive timber building that is managed for the public in partnership with the **Mount Hood National Forest** and **RLK And Company**.



Timberline lodge is famous for the outstanding massive, interior timber construction.

The Fiddlin' Foresters' performance recounted the rich heritage of the Forest Service and the national forests in the Pacific Northwest and throughout the nation. It served as a reminder that our nation's strength and bounty is, in no small way, a result of our national forests and grasslands. It is an honor and privilege to represent the agency that has the important mission of caring for the land and serving people.

District Ranger **Colleen Madrid** hosted the program, along with employees from the District and the friendly folks from the Timberline Lodge. It provided a chance for all to take some time to look at the tradition, history and future of the Forest Service.



The WPA built the famous Timberline Lodge in 1937.

One employee thanked the Fiddlin' Foresters for reminding her of the passion, excitement and enthusiasm that has marked her career in the Forest Service. In this day of dwindling budgets, downsizing and administrative change, it is helpful to reflect on the importance of land stewardship for the American public. Interpretation through music can inspire and motivate.

“For ten years people have been telling me that the Fiddlin' Foresters should perform at Timberline Lodge,” said **Lynn Young**. “We finally got our chance. It was a privilege to play there and to stay at the lodge. It was also the first time to perform in Oregon. We have now performed in 20 states.”

"Staying at Timberline Lodge was a wonderful opportunity," said **Tom McFarland**. I could feel the history, tradition and heritage of the old building and the workers that labored in the harsh, beautiful setting. It adds to our list of great Fiddlin' Forester experiences."